

In fact, between 2001 and 2008, OLMS reported that its investigations yielded a total of 1,004 indictments with 929 convictions and court-ordered restitution of more than \$93 million dollars. For example, according to statistics reported by the Office of Management and Budget, OMB, the OLMS audits turned up criminal violations in about 11.5 percent of audits and nearly 8 percent of unions showed some fraudulent activity in 2008 alone. Between January 1 and October 19, 2009, OLMS reported obtaining indictments, convictions and sentences in embezzlement cases that total nearly \$3 million in theft from union funds.

in order to provide a better method for collecting information about union finances, the Department of Labor proposed modifying the LM-2 form. After a lengthy rulemaking process, the Department issued a final rule on January 21, 2009, which required additional information about the receipt and disbursement of labor organization funds, and established standards and procedures for revoking, where appropriate, a labor organization's simplified filing privilege. But politics got in the way of transparency and good government. And on October 13, 2009, the Department announced a final decision to rescind these regulations.

This is outrageous. No one is talking about protecting rank-and-file members' ability to hold their leadership accountable. Instead, the Secretary of Labor has bowed to pressure and complaints from labor unions. The unions argued that requiring labor organizations with reported annual receipts over \$250,000 to file more detailed disclosure reports was unnecessarily burdensome and imposed additional administrative costs on their organizations.

Rigorous disclosure requirements promote union transparency and accountability of union leaders to their rank-and-file members. The annual financial reports ensure that workers' dues are used legitimately and can also help workers and oversight investigators detect fraudulent or criminal activity. Bringing corrupt union officials to justice and recovering millions of dollars in hard-earned dues would not be possible if unions were not required to file annual financial disclosure reports.

For this reason, I am introducing a Congressional Review Act resolution disapproving the Department of Labor's October 13 decision to rescind the LM-2 rule. My resolution, which is co-sponsored by 17 of my colleagues, would have the effect of reinstating the original LM-2 rule published in January 2009 and would ensure that OLMS continues to protect the rights of rank-and-file union members against corrupt union leaders.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 380—DESIGNATING JANUARY 2010 AS “NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH”

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BURR, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. COCHRAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 380

Whereas mentoring is a longstanding tradition in which a dependable, caring adult provides guidance, support, and encouragement to facilitate a young person's social, emotional, and cognitive development;

Whereas continued research on mentoring shows that formal, high-quality mentoring focused on developing the competence and character of the mentee promotes positive outcomes, such as improved academic achievement, self-esteem, social skills, and career development;

Whereas further research on mentoring provides strong evidence that mentoring successfully reduces substance use and abuse, academic failure, and delinquency;

Whereas mentoring, in addition to preparing young people for school, work, and life, is extremely rewarding for those serving as mentors;

Whereas more than 4,700 mentoring programs in communities of all sizes across the United States focus on building strong, effective relationships between mentors and mentees;

Whereas approximately 3,000,000 young people in the United States are in solid mentoring relationships due to the remarkable vigor, creativity, and resourcefulness of the thousands of mentoring programs in communities throughout the Nation;

Whereas in spite of the progress made to increase mentoring, the United States has a serious “mentoring gap”, with nearly 15,000,000 young people in need of mentors;

Whereas mentoring partnerships between the public and private sectors bring State and local leaders together to support mentoring programs by preventing duplication of efforts, offering training in industry best practices, and making the most of limited resources to benefit young people in the United States;

Whereas the designation of January 2010 as “National Mentoring Month” will help call attention to the critical role mentors play in helping young people realize their potential;

Whereas a month-long celebration of mentoring will encourage more individuals and organizations, including schools, businesses, nonprofit organizations, faith institutions, and foundations, to become engaged in mentoring across the United States; and

Whereas National Mentoring Month will, most significantly, build awareness of mentoring and encourage more people to become mentors and help close the mentoring gap in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the month of January 2010 as “National Mentoring Month”;

(2) recognizes with gratitude the contributions of the millions of caring adults and students who are already volunteering as mentors and encourages more adults and students to volunteer as mentors; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Mentoring Month with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of, and volunteer involvement with, youth mentoring.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I am pleased today to join many of my colleagues in introducing a resolution designating January 2010 as National Mentoring Month.

We all agree that young people need a supportive environment based on structured and trusting relationships with adults. The world is more complicated for children today than it ever was when I was growing up. Mentors can help young people through the difficult periods, help them see the difference between right and wrong, alleviate their doubts and concerns, and answer their questions frankly. Mentors can dramatically impact a young person's life by providing the support and encouragement that children need in order to grow into responsible, caring adults.

This resolution recognizes the value of volunteering time to make a difference in the life of a child. A growing body of research has shown that high-quality programs can make all the difference and help students in need achieve the type of future they might never have thought possible. Children with mentors are shown to improve in school performance and attendance. Also, they are more self-confident, have good social skills, and above all else, they are motivated to reach their full potential. Unfortunately, a severe shortage of volunteers has left over 15 million young people without mentors.

National Mentoring Month highlights the needs and goals of mentoring in this country and honors the contributions of the many volunteers across the country that are currently connecting with youth in such programs. Next month, non-profit organizations, schools, businesses, faith communities, and Government agencies—led by the National Mentoring Partnership and the Harvard School of Public Health—will join together to encourage adults to serve as mentors for our young people. Programs must be expanded to recruit more volunteers to help fill the mentoring gap. Mentoring has successfully helped many children in this country and we must work together to expand such valuable programs. I urge the Senate to approve this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 381—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 1 THROUGH FEBRUARY 5, 2010, AS “NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK”

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 381

Whereas the American School Counselor Association has declared the week of February 1 through February 5, 2010, as “National School Counseling Week”;

Whereas the Senate has recognized the importance of school counseling through the inclusion of elementary and secondary school counseling programs in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.);